GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3263
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2007
GENDER GAP
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the World Economic Forum's latest report highlights the dismal performance of India in the empowerment of women as reported in The Times of India dated November 11, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to bridge the gender gap; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) The Global Gender Gap Report 2007 brought out by the World Economic Form, Geneva, an independent international organization, has come to the notice of the Government but the Government has not reviewed the Report. The Report ranks India at 114 among 128 countries in the overall Global Gender Gap Index 2007.

(c)&(d) Women's empowerment is a mandate of the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry has taken up Gender Budgeting as a tool to achieve gender equality. Annual Report 2006-2007 of Ministry of Women and Child Development, (Chapter 6) relating to Gender Budgeting − Budgeting for Gender Equity, refers in this regard. The same is available on the Ministry's Website www.wcd.nic.in.